

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 /022 R

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R 221637Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SWZC, YO

SUBJECT: 1976 PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN
EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION

REF: BELGRADE 4403

1. DELIBERATIONS OF AYES BOARD MEETING AUGUST 18 WERE
CONVEYED TO BFS BOARD MEMBER BILLINGTON IN LETTER DATED
AUGUST 28 AND MATTER OF CONTINUING INBALANCE BETWEEN HARD
SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES SOCIAL SCIENCE CATEGORIES WAS
DISCUSSED AT BFS SUBCOMMITTEE (BILLINGTON AND DWINELL)
MEETING WITH CU/EE SEPTEMBER 8. SUBCOMMITTEE EXPRESSED
APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS MADE TO CORRECT IMBALANCE IN
YUGOSLAV NOMINATIONS BUT INDICATED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT FINAL
SOLUTION NOT YET CLEARLY IN SIGHT. WHILE GIVING RELUCTANT
APPROVAL TO 1976 PROGRAM, SUBCOMMITTEE APPEARED DETERMINED
TO PURSUE MATTER AND ASKED THAT CU/EE TAKE FOLLOW-UP ACTION.

2. DEPARTMENT IS IN FULL ACCORD WITH SUBCOMMITTEE VIEWS ON
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THIS ISSUE, BUT, AT SAME TIME, RECOGNIZES PROBLEMS INHERENT

IN TRYING TO BRING ABOUT DESIRED CHANGES. HOPEFUL SIGN, IN OUR VIEW, IS AGREEMENT BY YUGOSLAV SIDE THAT IMBALANCE IS MATTER OF CONCERN FOR THEM AS WELL. YUGOSLAV PROPOSAL TO SEND LETTERS TO UNIVERSITIES AND PARTICIPATING REPUBLIC BODIES REFLECTING AYEC DISSATISFACTION WITH COMPOSITION OF THIS YEAR'S PANEL AND INFORMING THEM THAT THEY WILL BE ASKED TO ABIDE BY QUOTAS SET BY 1977/78 PROGRAM APPEARS TO BE STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION, PARTICULARLY IF PROGRAM ITSELF IS BALANCED. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS SUFFICIENT.

3. AS WE SEE SITUATION FROM HERE, APART FROM PROGRAM PER SE, CORE OF THE PROBLEM (AS INDICATED IN AUGUST 11 BRANDT-AVANT LETTER) IS THAT UNIVERSITIES ARE ALLOWED TOO MUCH LEEWAY IN SELECTION PROCESS. UNIVERSITIES SHOULD BE INFORMED OF AYEC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY CATEGORY AND, THEN RECRUITMENT AND APPROVAL OF APPLICANTS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN STRICT ACCORDANCE THERETO. IF NUMBER OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES CANDIDATES COMBINED SHOULD FALL BELOW DESIGNATED QUOTAS, THEN HARD SCIENCES QUOTA SHOULD BE REDUCED ACCORDINGLY IN ORDER TO BRING THE TWO GENERAL CATEGORIES INTO BALANCE. SIMULTANEOUSLY, EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ACHIEVE SOMEWHAT BETTER BALANCE BETWEEN SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES.

4. UNLESS SOCIAL SCIENCES/HUMANITIES ARE BROUGHT INTO ROUGH BALANCE WITH HARD SCIENCES IN 1977/78 PROGRAM, WE ANTICIPATE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN APPROVAL OF PROGRAM BY BFS. FURTHERMORE, BALANCE SHOULD BE REFLECTED NOT ONLY IN PROGRAM BUT IN COMPOSITION OF PANELS AS WELL. FINALLY, AYEC AGREEMENT ON PROGRAM MUST BE ACCOMPLISHED AT SUFFICIENTLY EARLY DATE TO ALLOW FOR ORDERLY REVIEW BY BFS AND SUCH CHANGES AS MAY APPEAR DESIRABLE. NO MORE FAITS ACCOMPLIS, PLEASE.

5. EMBASSY COMMENTS WILL BE APPRECIATED. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE225270
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SGWISE:BH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750328-0788
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750929/aaaaazmi.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BELGRADE 4403
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1976 PROGRAM PROPOSAL FOR YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION
TAGS: OEXC, YO, US
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006